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UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

[Original: English]

[30 October 1991]

The British Government welcome the objectives of the resolution, which are to promote peace and cooperation in the South Atlantic. In this regard they wish to draw attention to the recent developments in Anglo-Argentine relations which have contributed to the lessening of tension in the South-West Atlantic and allow the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands to enjoy a secure and peaceful future with the traditional links with Britain that they wish to maintain. In particular, the British Government wish to emphasize the progress in bilateral cooperation on fisheries that has contributed to conservation of stocks, and the continued contribution of confidence-building measures, agreed at the Madrid talks in February 1990, which have helped avoid unnecessary incidents and strengthened mutual trust. With regard to the latter, a substantive meeting between British and Argentine officials took place in London in June at which constructive discussions on measures designed to promote security and confidence in the South-West Atlantic took place in a cordial atmosphere. Measures were agreed by both Governments and announced in a Joint Statement on 25 September a copy of which was transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 3 of the Joint Statement and which has been circulated as General Assembly and Security Council document A/46/596-S/23164.